

15. *Reports on the Marine Mollusca in the Collections of the South African Museum.* By J. R. LE B. TOMLIN, M.A., and Dr. F. A. SCHILDER.

(With 3 Text-figures.)

IX. FAMILY TRIVIIDAE.

Triviella splendidissima n. sp.

SHELL white, subpellucid, iridescent, the spire and extremities being slightly tinged with yellow; shape very globular, outer lip very



A. E. Salisbury, photo.]

FIG. 1.—*Triviella splendidissima* n. sp.

tumid, margined, left border regularly convex; spire entirely hidden, hardly visible through the subpellucid enamel; there is no dorsal sulcus though some ribs alternate on the dorsum; interstices quite smooth without trace of granulation dorsally; aperture narrow, straight, rather central; anterior outlet rather narrow, semicircular,

posterior outlet obsolete, hardly marked; ribs rather distant dorsally, interstices nearly as large, labial teeth very distant; columellar ribs close, slightly flattened, interstices half as broad; interstices of the ribs on the outer lip longitudinally corrugate; anterior termination of the inner lip hardly projecting at all; columellar sulcus absent posteriorly, but the columellar ribs pass over the columella for some

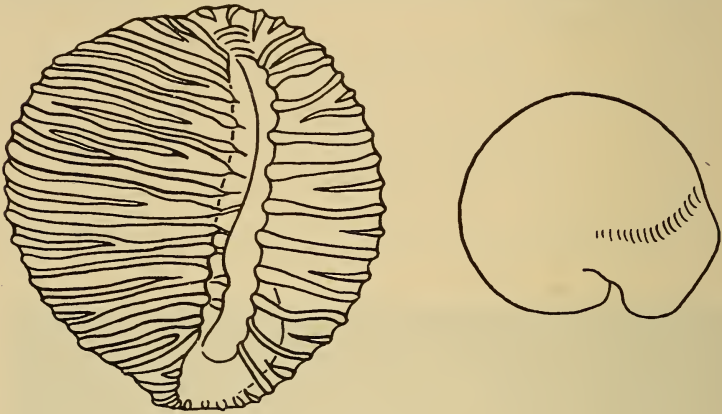


FIG. 2.

Triviella splendidissima n. sp. Ventral view.

Outlines of the shell. View from the apex (from behind).

distance; edge between base and columella distinctly marked; fossula rather broad but very steep and very slightly concave, inner border slightly projecting with two feeble denticles.

Length 7·8 mm., breadth 7·3 mm., altitude 6·2 mm.

Number of labial teeth, 12.

Number of columellar teeth, 14.

Number of ribs round the shell 58, while 12 ribs cross the dorsum.

Hab.—One living example dredged off Cape Morgan in 77 fathoms (S.A. Mus., A3534).

This species is in some ways intermediate between *Trivia* and *Triviella*; the latter genus was founded by Jousseaume* in 1884 with the well-known South African *Cypraea oniscus* Lamarek as type. We assign our new species to *Triviella* on account of the coarse labial teeth and the characters of the fossula, the posterior outlet and the columella. The narrowness of the aperture (caused by the thickening of the lip) and its angular left border are more as in *Trivia*, though the latter character is noticeable also in *costata* Gmelin, which is certainly a *Triviella*.

* Bull. Soc. Zool. France, ix, p. 99.

Our new species has no connection with *Trivia suavis* Schilder (= *formosa* Gaskoin non Gray), another South African species.

The thickened outer lip and very slight indications of callosities above both extremities are quite similar superficially to *Trivia hamburgensis* Schilder * from the Miocene of Northern Germany, and are caused by similarity of habitat.



FIG. 3.—*Triviella splendidissima*, n. sp. Central, lateral, and marginal teeth of radula. ×400.

Lt.-Col. Peile succeeded in extracting the dried animal and in mounting the radula, and from a drawing which he has very kindly provided we are able to illustrate the central, lateral, and marginal teeth.

The radula consists of 33 rows + nascent with the usual taenioglossate formula 2.1.1.1.2.

Fragments of the jaws resemble in structure those of *Trivia coccinella* (Lamarck), as figured by Troschel in *Das Gebiss der Schnecken*, vol. i, pl. xviii, f. 3.

* Mitt. Min. Geol. Staatsinstitut Hamburg, pt. xi, p. 13, text-fig. 6, a-d, 1929.